

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst comprising an NO oxidation catalyst and an NO₂ decomposition catalyst, wherein the NO oxidation catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on an acidic first carrier selected from the group consisting of ~~silica, silica-alumina,~~ zeolite with an SiO₂/Al₂O₃ ratio of 40 or greater, tungstic acid/zirconia, antimononic acid/alumina, and mixtures thereof, and the NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of the transition metals, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, and mixtures thereof, and wherein the NO oxidation catalyst and the NO₂ decomposition catalyst are separate powders present in a randomly mixed state in the particulate matter combustion catalyst.

2. (Currently Amended) A particulate matter combustion catalyst comprising an NO oxidation catalyst and an NO₂ decomposition catalyst, wherein the NO oxidation catalyst comprises a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on an acidic first carrier selected from the group consisting of ~~silica, silica-alumina,~~ zeolite with an SiO₂/Al₂O₃ ratio of 40 or greater, tungstic acid/zirconia, antimononic acid/alumina, and mixtures thereof, and the NO₂ decomposition catalyst comprises at least one metal selected from among alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, and a catalyst component selected from the group consisting of platinum, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, iridium, palladium and mixtures thereof, carried on a second carrier selected from the group consisting of titania, zirconia, titania-zirconia, alumina, and mixtures thereof, and wherein the NO oxidation catalyst and the NO₂

decomposition catalyst are separate powders present in a randomly mixed state in the particulate matter combustion catalyst.

3. - 6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 1, wherein said NO oxidation catalyst and said NO₂ decomposition catalyst are carried on a particulate matter filter.

8. (Previously Presented) A particulate matter combustion catalyst according to claim 2, wherein said NO oxidation catalyst and said NO₂ decomposition catalyst are carried on a particulate matter filter.

9. - 14. (Canceled)